

ITEM:

SUBJECT: Children's Hospital Central California, Wastewater Treatment Facility, Madera County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Special Order Modifying Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 95-244.*

BACKGROUND: Children's Hospital Central California owns and operates a Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) that serves its hospital in Madera County. Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 95-244 (WDRs) regulates the WWTF and its discharge of up to 80,000 gallons per day of disinfected secondary effluent to 100 seepage pits (disposal area). The WDRs prescribe an effluent limitation for electrical conductivity at 25°C (EC) of source water EC plus 500 µmhos/cm. The Discharger has chronically exceeded this effluent EC limit. Groundwater affected by the discharge contains concentrations of nitrate and trihalomethanes in excess of applicable water quality limitations. The Discharger voluntarily performed a comprehensive salinity source control study and implemented salinity reduction measures that reflect best efforts for this discharge. The Discharger plans to discontinue chlorination to eliminate the production of trihalomethanes in the discharge and to implement nitrogen reduction and ultraviolet disinfection. The Discharger requested the effluent EC limit be revised to not exceed 900 µmhos/cm to reflect the Discharger's implementation of best salinity reduction measures.

The Special Order revises the WDRs to prescribe effluent limitations of 10 mg/L for nitrogen and 900 µmhos/cm for EC, and discontinue specifications related to the use of chlorine as a disinfectant. (AMS)

ISSUES: No known issues. This item is uncontested.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review _____

28/29 April 2005

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706